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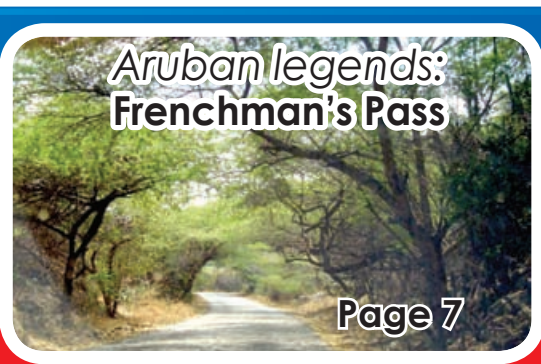

Legendary Aruban musician, Robert JeandD'or has passed away

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Members of the Ohio National Guard patrol the National Mall Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

Prosecutors already have dropped nearly a dozen cases from Trump's D.C. crime surge, judge says

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 50 people have faced federal charges in Washington, D.C., since President Donald Trump's emergency law-and-order surge began last month. Already, prosecutors have dropped at least 11 of those cases, an unusually high collapse rate that judges say is wasting court resources.

The dismissals highlight the risks of Trump's emergency surge strategy: an unprecedented flood of arrests that has produced headline-grabbing numbers but faltered under judicial scrutiny, with some of the most serious cases from assaults on federal agents to gun charges unraveling before they ever reach trial.

On Tuesday, U.S. Magistrate Judge Matthew Sharbaugh dismissed two felony assault cases at the request of U.S. Attorney Jeanine Pirro's office. He delivered a blunt warning from the bench as he questioned whether prosecutors are making charging decisions before cases are properly investigated and vetted. "That's not the way it's supposed to work, and it has real-world consequences," Sharbaugh said. "This is becoming a real concern for the court just given the sheer numbers."Judges aren't the only ones pushing back.

Grand juries have refused to return indictments at least eight times in six separate cases, an extraordinarily rare rebuke that underscores skepticism about the strength of the evidence in surge prosecutions. Trump claims his emergency 30-day deployment of federal agents and National Guard members is making the streets safer for District of Columbia residents.

One of the cases Sharbaugh dismissed involved Scott Pichon, accused of spitting on two members of the South Carolina Army National Guard outside Union Station on Aug. 22. Prosecutors dropped the felony assault count and instead charged him with misdemeanors in D.C. Superior Court, which handles local criminal matters.

The other case was against Paul Nguyen, accused of assaulting a federal agent who tried to break up a street fight on Aug. 23. Prosecutors abandoned that felony entirely, and Nguyen isn't facing any new charges. Nguyen, who appeared in court wearing a sling, said his arm was broken during his arrest and that he spent five nights in jail before being released.❑

Fired CDC chief Susan Monarez warns senators that RFK Jr. is endangering public health

By AMANDA SEITZ and MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's public health system is headed to a "very dangerous place" with Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and his team of anti-vaccine advisers in charge, fired Centers for Disease Control and Prevention chief Susan Monarez warned senators on Wednesday.

Describing extraordinary turmoil inside the nation's health agencies, Monarez and former CDC Chief Medical Officer Chief Debra Houry described exchanges in which Kennedy or political advisers rebuffed data supporting the safety and efficacy of vaccines.

Monarez, who was fired after just 29 days on the job following disagreements with Kennedy, told senators deadly diseases like polio and whooping cough, long contained, are poised to make a comeback in the U.S.

"I believe preventable diseases will return, and I believe we will have our children harmed by things they don't need to be harmed by," Monarez said before the Senate health committee.

Monarez describes her firing by RFK

Monarez said she was ordered by Kennedy to resign if she did not sign off on new vaccine recommendations, which are expected to be released later this week by an advisory panel that Kennedy has stocked with medical experts and vaccine skeptics. She said that when she asked for data or science to back up Kennedy's request to change the childhood vaccination schedule, he offered none.

She added that Kennedy told her "he spoke to the president every day about changing the childhood vaccination schedule."

Republican Sen. Bill Cassidy, a physician who chairs the powerful health committee, listened intently as Monarez and Houry described conversations with Kennedy and his advisers.

"To be clear, he said there was not science or data, but he still expected you to change schedule?" Cassidy asked.

Cassidy carefully praised President Donald Trump for his commitment to promoting health policies but made it clear he was concerned about the circumstances surrounding Monarez's removal.

Houry, meanwhile, described similar exchanges with Kennedy's political advisers, who took an unprecedented role in preparing materials for meetings of the CDC's advisory vaccine panel.

Ahead of this week's meeting of the panel, Houry offered to include data around the hepatitis B shot that is administered to newborns to prevent spread of the deadly disease from the mother.

She said a Kennedy adviser dismissed the data as biased because it might support keeping the shots on the schedule.

"You're suggesting that they wanted to move away from the birth dose, but they were afraid that your data would say that they should retain it?" Cassidy asked.

Former Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Susan Monarez testifies before the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions hearing on Capitol Hill, in Washington Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025.

Associated Press

Critical vaccine decisions are ahead

During the Senate hearing, Democrats, all of whom opposed Monarez's nomination, also questioned Kennedy's motives for firing Monarez, who was approved for the job unanimously by Republicans.

"Frankly, she stood up for protecting the well-being of the American people, and for that reason she was fired," said Sen. Bernie Sanders, an independent from Vermont who caucuses with Democrats.

Monarez said it was both her refusal to sign off on new vaccination recommendations without scientific evidence and her unwillingness to fire high-ranking career CDC officials without cause that led to her ousting. ❑

FDA proposes ban on Orange B, a food dye not used for decades

By JONEL ALECCIA
AP Health Writer

Federal regulators are proposing to remove another artificial dye from the U.S. food supply Orange B, a synthetic color that hasn't been used in the U.S. for decades.

The Food and Drug Administration seal is seen at the Hubert Humphrey Building Auditorium in Washington, April 22, 2025.

Associated Press

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration said Wednesday that it would seek to repeal the regulation allowing use of the dye approved in 1966 to color sausage casings and frankfurters. No batches of the dye have been certified, or asked to be used, since 1978, FDA officials said.

"Its use has been abandoned by industry," the agency said in a statement. "The color additive regulation is outdated and unnecessary."

But consumer advocates who have called for tougher FDA regulation of food dyes and other additives for decades have suggested it was an empty gesture.

"It says they are currently willing to take mandatory steps only where it has no impact," said Sarah Sorscher, who directs regulatory affairs for the Center for Science in the Public Interest, an advocacy group.

The move follows the FDA's decision in January to ban Red No. 3 because of potential cancer risk. That dye has been used far more widely in candies, snack foods and medicines.

The Orange B proposal is separate from a successful push by the Trump administration this year to pressure top food manufacturers to voluntarily remove artificial food dyes from products ranging from cereals and yogurt to sodas. After a brief public comment period, it would take effect within 45 days.

U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and FDA Commissioner Marty Makary have pledged to remove petroleum-based dyes from U.S. foods, citing concerns about children's health.

Mixed studies have indicated that exposure to food dyes can cause behavioral problems in some children, including hyperactivity and attention issues. ❑

Obama says the U.S. is at 'an inflection point' after Kirk's killing and Trump has divided the country

By MEG KINNARD
Associated Press

Former President Barack Obama says that the United States is at "an inflection point" following the assassination of conservative activist Charlie Kirk and that President Donald Trump has further divided the country rather than work to bring people together.

"There are no ifs, ands or buts about it: The central premise of our democratic system is that we have to be able to disagree and have sometimes really contentious debates without resorting to violence," Obama said Tuesday night during an event in Erie, Pennsylvania, hosted by the Jefferson Education Society, according to a transcript obtained by The Associated Press.

"And when it happens to some, but even if you think they're, quote, unquote, on the other side of the argument, that's a threat to all of us," he said. "And we have to be clear and forthright in condemning them."

Obama has kept somewhat of a low profile in his post-presidency. Responding to a moderator's questions Tuesday, he addressed Trump's rhetoric after Kirk's assassination, as well as other administrative actions.

Former President Barack Obama speaks at the Obama Foundation Democracy Forum in Chicago, Dec. 5, 2024.

Associated Press

The Democrat spoke about his own leadership following the 2015 slaying of nine Black parishioners at a Charleston, South Carolina, church, as well as Republican then-President George W. Bush's actions following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He said he sees the role of a president in a crisis "to constantly remind us of the ties that bind us together."

The sentiment among Trump and his aides following Kirk's killing of calling political opponents "vermin, enemies … speaks to a broader problem," Obama said.

Kirk, a dominant figure in conservative politics, became a confidant of Trump after founding Arizona-based Turning Point USA, one of the nation's largest political organizations. Trump has escalated threats to crack down on what he describes as the "radical left" following Kirk's assassination, stirring fears his Republican administration is trying to harness outrage over the killing to suppress political opposition.

Trump's White House on Wednesday responded to Obama's remarks by blaming him for animosity in the country, calling him "the architect of modern political division in America."

"Obama used every opportunity to sow division and pit Americans against each other, and following his presidency more Americans felt Obama divided the country than felt he united it," White House spokeswoman Abigail Jackson said in a statement.

Obama on Tuesday also referenced Trump's recent deployment of National Guard troops in Washington and ID checks by federal agents in Los Angeles. He urged citizens and elected officials to closely monitor the norm-busting decisions.

"What you're seeing, I think, is the sense that through executive power, many of the guardrails and norms that I thought I had to abide by as president of the United States, that George Bush thought he had to abide by as president of the United States, that suddenly those no longer apply," Obama said. "And that makes this a dangerous moment."

Shortly after Kirk's death, Obama wrote in a post on X that he and his wife, Michelle, were praying for Kirk's family, adding: "This kind of despicable violence has no place in our democracy."

Obama said that he disagreed with many of Kirk's stances, noting that his position "doesn't negate the fact that what happened was a tragedy and that I mourn for him and his family."

Calling political violence "anathema to what it means to be a democratic country," Obama also mentioned the June shooting deaths of Minnesota state Rep. Melissa Hortman and her husband in their home.❑

Army veteran who burned American flag near White House pleads not guilty to federal charges

Jan Carey, a North Carolina veteran who burned a flag near the White House last month, listens while his attorneys speak following his arraignment at the E. Barrett Prettyman Federal Courthouse, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Army veteran who set fire to an American flag near the White House to protest President Donald Trump's recent executive order on flag burning pleaded not guilty Wednesday to federal criminal charges.

Jan Carey is charged with two misdemeanors that are not focused on the act of burning a flag. Making his initial court appearance, Carey was arraigned on charges of igniting a fire in an undesignated area and lighting a fire causing damage to property or park resources.

Chief Judge James Boasberg set an Oct. 17 deadline for Carey's lawyers to file a motion to dismiss the case on constitutional grounds.

Carey is due back in court on Dec. 1 for a status hearing.

Carey, 54, of Arden, North Carolina, was arrested on Aug. 25 after he set fire to a flag in Lafayette Park, which the National Park Service oversees. Earlier that day, Trump signed an executive order requiring the Justice Department to investigate and prosecute people for burning the American flag.

The Supreme Court has ruled that flag burning is a legitimate political expression protected by the Constitution. Trump's order asserts that burning a flag can be prosecuted if it "is likely to incite imminent lawless action" or amounts to "fighting words."

"You burn a flag, you get one year in jail. You don't get 10 years, you don't get one month," Trump said. "You get one year in jail, and it goes on your record, and you will see flag burning stopping immediately."❑

Delays to Mike Waltz's UN bid make it all but impossible he's in the role for a major world meeting

By FARNOUSH AMIRI
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Mike Waltz almost certainly will not make his debut as President Donald Trump's U.S. ambassador to the United Nations during a gathering of world leaders next week after delays and procedural hurdles postponed his confirmation.

Waltz's nomination was sent back to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee last week after Democrats blocked more than two dozen of the Republican president's executive branch nominees. Waltz's nomination passed again on Wednesday, with one Democrat joining nearly all Republicans to advance him to the Senate floor. But it still remains all but impossible that he would be confirmed by the full chamber before the high-level General Assembly meeting starts on Monday.

"Senate Democrats' extension of their blockade on President Trump's nominations is a deterrent to bipartisan committee work and has hurt America's standing on the world stage," Sen. Jim Risch, GOP chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said in a statement. "Republicans are getting the Senate back to work, and I'm confident Mr. Waltz will be in place in the coming weeks." Waltz served for mere weeks as Trump's national security adviser before he was ousted in May after mistakenly adding a journalist to a private Signal chat used to discuss sensitive military plans. He has denied being removed from the post, instead claiming he was tapped for the U.N. role and stating that the chat met the administration's cybersecurity standards. The Pentagon inspector general is investigating.

White House national security adviser Mike Waltz speaks with reporters in the James Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House, on Feb. 20, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

By the time the White House sent the Florida Republican's paperwork to the Senate for the confirmation process to begin, the U.N. position had been vacant for nearly six months. It is the last one to be filled in Trump's Cabinet following months of delay, including the withdrawal of the previous nominee, Rep. Elise Stefanik, over concerns about the Republicans' House majority.

It is unclear why Waltz wasn't advanced before Democrats employed the procedural move, given that his nomination moved out of committee last month with bipartisan support. A Democratic congressional aide said the White House had shown "no urgency" in getting Waltz confirmed before next week's major U.N. gathering. He would have been representing the United States alongside Trump and Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who now also serves as national security adviser.❑

U.N. armored vehicle crashes in Central African Republic, killing 5 police officers

BANGUI, Central African Republic (AP) — A United Nations armored personnel carrier in the Central African Republic crashed and rolled into a river outside the capital of Bangui, killing five U.N. police officers, a spokesperson for the MINUSCA peacekeeping mission said Wednesday.

The vehicle that was part of a five-car MINUSCA convoy plunged into the Ombella M'poko River before crossing a bridge, according to MINUSCA spokesperson Florence Marshall. The convoy was returning to another town after gathering supplies in Bangui.

All five officers killed in Tuesday's crash were from the Republic of the Congo.

A search and rescue operation is now underway to recover the bodies.

The Central African Republic remains one of the world's poorest countries despite its vast mineral wealth, including gold and diamonds.

Rebel groups have often operated with impunity, thwarting mining exploration by foreign companies.

The country is one of the first in which Russia-backed Wagner Group mercenaries established operations with the pledge of fighting rebel groups and restoring peace. Wagner forces have served as personal bodyguards for President Faustin Archange Touadera, helping him win a constitutional referendum in July 2023 that could extend his power indefinitely.

United Nations peacekeeping forces and Russian mercenaries have previously been accused of carrying out human rights violations in the Central African Republic.❑

United Nations peacekeepers stand in the market in Bouar, Central African Republic, March 8, 2024.

Associated Press

Thai security forces use rubber bullets and tear gas in border melee with Cambodian protesters

By SOPHENG CHEANG and GRANT PECK Associated Press

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — Thai security forces clashed with protesters from Cambodia on Wednesday in a disputed border area, threatening a fragile truce reached in July after five days of armed combat.

Official statements from Cambodia said 28 people were injured over the course of several hours near what they called Prey Chan village in Banteay Meanchey province. Thai authorities referred to the same area as Ban Nong Ya Kaeo in Thailand's Sa Kaeo province. No deaths were reported. Thai security forces used non-lethal weapons while Cambodian protesters, who appeared to be civilians, threw rocks and other objects.

Thai Army spokesperson Maj. Gen. Winthai Suvaree described the situation as a Cambodian mob encroaching on Thai territory, obstructing operations and destroying official property. He said Thai authorities regarded the incident as a provocation and an intentional violation of the ceasefire agreement.

In this photo released by Agence Kampuchea Press (AKP), Thai soldiers carry barbed wire in Prey Chan village, along the disputed border with Thailand, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025.

Associated Press

In late July, the two countries engaged in five days of combat that killed dozens of people and displaced more than 260,000. The two countries agreed on a ceasefire only after mediation fostered by Malaysia's Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim and pressure from U.S. President Donald Trump, who threatened to withhold trade privileges unless they agreed on a truce. Tensions remain high after the ceasefire, especially since Thai soldiers have been wounded by land mines while patrolling the no-man's land between the two countries. Thailand charges that the mines are newly planted in violation of the ceasefire, an accusation vehemently denied by Cambodia.

Thai security forces "used tear gas against Cambodian civilians in an attempt to surround land that Cambodians have long lived on and cultivated," said a Cambodian government statement issued Wednesday.

It said local Cambodians gathered to remove barbed wire that Thais were laying down, and that "Thai authorities fired live ammunition, rubber bullets, and smoke bombs at them, while also deploying high-frequency sound devices that can damage the eardrum and brain." The statement further asserted that other "violent measures" were used, resulting in at least 28 people, including monks, fainting and sustaining serious and minor injuries.

A Thai army statement posted online said approximately 200 people came from the Cambodian side "to protest the Thai side's actions during the deployment of barriers and concertina wire to enhance security along the Thai-Cambodian border."

It said Thai officials explained to the crowd what they were doing, but a melee broke out and they had to use tear gas and rubber bullets to restore order, with the tear gas temporarily causing both sides to step back.

When the Thai authorities resumed setting up their barrier, violence broke out again and security forces employed tear gas, rubber bullets, and LRADs long-range acoustic devices that emit painfully loud high-pitched sounds to quell the unrest, they said.

After 5 p.m., the Cambodians began to retreat, shouting at the Thai forces and causing injuries by throwing rocks and sticks and shooting slingshots, said the Thai army statement, adding that five Thai soldiers were injured.❑

Alexei Navalny's widow says lab reports show her husband was poisoned

By The Associated Press

The widow of Alexei Navalny said Wednesday that two independent labs have found that her husband was poisoned shortly before his death in a Russian prison.

Yulia Navalnaya, widow of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny walks away from his picture after lighting a candle at the end of a service in St. Mary's Church on the occasion of his birthday, in Berlin, June 4, 2024.

Associated Press

Navalny, who crusaded against official corruption and staged massive anti-Kremlin protests as President Vladimir Putin's fiercest foe, died in the Arctic penal colony in February 2024. He was serving a 19-year sentence that he believed to be politically motivated.

Authorities said that the politician became ill after a walk but have otherwise given few details on his death. He was 47.

In a video released Wednesday, Yulia Navalnaya said that biological samples from Navalny's body had been taken out of Russia and tested at two laboratories abroad.

She said that both laboratories concluded that Navalny had been poisoned, but had not released their findings due to "political considerations."

"These labs in two different countries reached the same conclusion: Alexei was killed.

More specifically, he was poisoned," Navalnaya said in the video, which was posted on social media.

In the clip, she questioned the lack of video footage from the prison and showed images purported to be of Navalny's cell on the day of his death showing vomit on the floor. She did not provide direct proof that Navalny had been poisoned or that it had been carried out by prison authorities.

"I demand that the laboratories that conducted the research publish their results," she said. "Stop appeasing Putin for some higher 'considerations.' You cannot placate him. While you stay silent, he does not stop," Navalnaya said.

Navalnaya has repeatedly blamed Putin for Navalny's death, something Russian officials have vehemently denied.

In a press conference Wednesday, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said he was not aware of Navalnaya's statement and said that he could not comment.❑

Aruban legends: Frenchman's Pass

(Oranjestad)—If you ever plan on taking a group tour of the island, you may pass through the Frenchman's Pass in Balashi. The Frenchman's pass (known to locals as "Franse Pas") remains a mysterious—and spooky—road of which its legend is told from generation to generation.

The history of the Frenchman's pass—and how it got its name—dates back to the colonization era, when the French tried to colonize the island, but were met with an angry mob of indigenous settlers, refusing to give up their land. However, as the French were heavily equipped with fire arms, the indigenous settlers began to retreat, and hid away in nearby caves. The French colonizers tried to smoke them out of the caves, but the indigenous settlers ended up inhaling too much smoke and most died in those caves. From then on, this passage was known as Frenchman's Pass, and there have been many accounts of spirits roaming the area of Spanish Lagoon.

There are many ghost stories surrounding this area, but one of the most famous one involves a lonely hitchhiker, trying to find a ride back home in the dark rainy night.

Some time after trying to hitchhike, the man saw a car approaching, appearing almost ghost-like in the rain. However, since he needed a ride real bad, he didn't think twice and jumped in. But to his horror, he noticed that the there was no driver in the front. Paralyzed with fear, he didn't dare to get out, and the car started to move.

When approaching a sharp turn, the hitch hiker braced for impact, but just when he though the car might drive straight off the road and crash, he saw a hand appear out the window and turn the wheel. For the next few turns, the hand appeared again. After having had enough, the man decided to jump out and he ran to Santa Cruz.

Arriving at a nearby bar, he ordered a drink and began to tell everyone about his experience. Everyone grew quiet, because they realized he wasn't some drunk messing around; he was telling the truth.

Some time later, two men walked into the bar and one of them noticed the hitchhiker. He called out to his buddy and said: "Look, there's the idiot who sat in our car when we were pushing it!"

French man's pass is one of the few sites on the island that keeps the locals on their toes. While most ghost stories may not have real grounds—or some may even be a set up story for a joke, this pass contributes a lot to our culture of folkloric story-telling.❑

Source: visitaruba.com

Drunken Fish: Where the sea meets the beat

ORANJESTAD – Get ready to dive in a sea of flavor at Drunken Fish, where we serve the island's freshest and finest seafood with a splash of tropical flavor.

Thanks to our local fishermen who deliver their daily catch straight to our kitchen, each bite bursts with authentic island goodness.

Feast on Vibrant Mahi Mahi, whole snapper or tender grouper fillets, or dig into our legendary Drunken Platters loaded with jumbo shrimp, Crunchy Grouper Fillet or golden calamari rings. Our Tuna, chicken and beef burgers are crafted to perfection and our chicken wings are a must try favorite.

When the sun sets, the party begins! Join us for high energy DJ Nights, where the music flows as freely as our cocktails. Sip on a Blackberry Mojito and dance under the stars, because at Drunken Fish, every meal comes with a side of rhythm.❑

Drunken Fish Kitchen is open during the week from 11am till 11pm.
On Fridays and Saturdays from 11am till 12am.While the bar team entertains you at the weekend till 2am.
Daily Fish Has daily happy hours from 5pm-7pm and from 9pm-10pm.

Aruba to me: Jon Janco

ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is ……. Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Jon Janco, from Boston, Massachusetts
He wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is my home away from home. The favorite part of my trip this time is knowing that the next time I will be here next year it will be with my girlfriend."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers!❑

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Legendary Aruban musician, Robert JeandD'or has passed away

ORANJESTAD – Legendary Aruban musician, Robert JeanD'or, who shared the studio and the stage with famous household names in Latin music like Juan Luis Guerra and Johnny Ventura, has sadly passed away.

Aruba mourned the passing of one of our greatest musical icons. Robert JeanD'or was beloved in the music scene in Aruba for his talent and versatility.

Robert JeanD'or was born on the 10th of May 1954 in Aruba. He was the son of Francisco Reinier JeanD'or, a Curaçaoan, and Cecilia Bermudez, an Aruban.

According to local sources, JeanD'or's talent became evident when he was barely 5 or 6 years old, as he would clap to the rhythm of Cuban danzon. His father noticed and encouraged Robert's interest in music, where he began playing the cuarta and then guitar.

In 1963, his brother Frank took him to play with local band from Tanki Leendert, Blancas Palomitas. For five years, Robert had singing lessons from Rufo Odor, and also took music lessons from Eddy Bennet and attended the Musical Academy of Aruba.

JeanD'or became famous in the '70s while part of Los Juveniles with Vito Oduber as manager, together with Vicente Kelly. With Los Juveniles, JeanD'or was crowned King of Tumba during Aruba's Carnival three times, the first triple crown in the history of Aruba, on 1976, 1977 and 1978. Robert went on to win two more crowns in 1990 and 1991.

At the time, world artists in the Latin scene were performing in Aruba, and as a renowned local musician, Robert would perform with them. This is how the opportunity presented for him to perform on the international stage, joining Johnny Ventura with Los Hijos del Rey, a much loved group in Santo Domingo in 1979. It was with this group that JeanD'or took the stage in Madison Square Garden in New York, singing five times in front of 24,000 people.

In an interview with Mario Diaz for Dominican media, Robert remembered: "It was Johnny Ventura who spoke to me so that I would travel as a musician to the Dominican Republic and my arrival there became a big experience. Once in the Dominican capital, the first recording I did was a commercial advertisement and the person who called me for that job was a very well-respected musician, his name is Jorge Taveras."

According to Dominican media, around 1985 JeanD'or formed an orchestra in Dominican territory, performing as singer, bass player, composer, and producer. "He was always faithful to merengue and salsa," according to Mario Diaz, quoted in Dominican website, Listin Diario. "It is very possible that, from his arrival to the Dominican Republic and without prejudice to his other musical qualities, the aspect which gave Robert JeanD'or the most prestige was his work in the recording studio, be it participating in choir where his potent and refined voice stood out, directing the back-up vocalists as well as the soloists, playing bass and arranging songs for different singers and groups." He recorded in studios in Santo Domingo, New York, Miami and Puerto Rico.

He also played with famous names like Willie Colon and Celia Croes and recorded music for Juan Luis Guerra's album. He also played in the famous Chilean festival, Viña del Mar, winning Antorcha de Plata with El Conjunto Quisqueya.

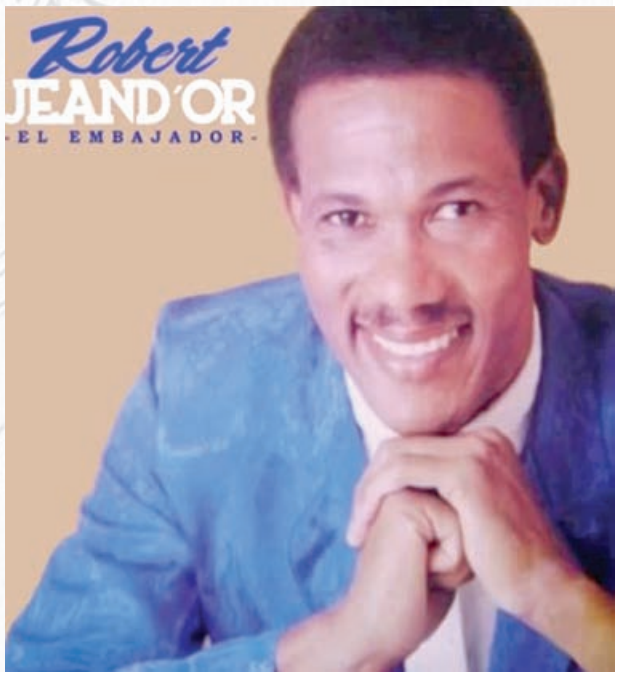
In 1990, JeanD'or returned to Aruba a formed his own group, which eventually became Robert JeanD'or y Su Solo Banda Show. He said he made the decision to come back to Aruba because "sometimes your country calls to you."

Here, JeanD'or stood out with his group as the best local band during the Aruba Jazz & Latin

Festival. He won the Den Ambiente Award in 1992, and was crowned 'Band of the Year' repeatedly during Aruba's Carnival.

Tributes poured in from the musical scene in Aruba and abroad, remembering Robert JeanD'or for his talent and skill, but also his humble personality and big heart.

May Robert JeanD'or rest in peace, and may his legend never be forgotten.❑



Snakes of Aruba

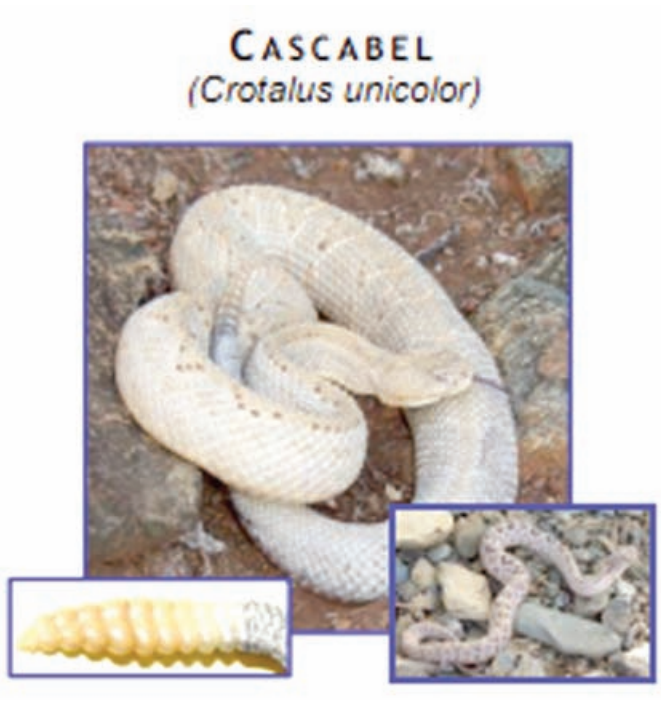
Arikok National Park is home to various unique plant and animal species such as Aruba's rare endemic rattlesnake Crotalus unicolor). This rattlesnake is locally known as the 'Cascabel'. But Aruba has two more snake species living on the island: the Santanero and the Boa.

Cascabel (Crotalus unicolor)

The small Cascabel or Aruba Island Rattlesnake averages 70 cm in length. The body color is often uniform gray or light brown. There may be a faint pattern of diamond shaped markings on the back. This pattern is most noticeable on younger snakes. The most distinctive feature of this snake is the rattle at the end of its tail which makes a buzzing sound when the snake is alarmed. Cascabels are shy and not aggressive, but their venom can be dangerous to humans. It is best to leave this snake alone. Do not attempt to catch or kill it.

Cascabels hunt by waiting under bushes and fruiting trees to catch passing lizards, mice, rats, small rabbits, and an occasional bird. This is often considered to be one of the rarest rattlesnakes in the world. The range of the Cascabel is restricted to the rugged and mountainous areas of the island mostly within Arikok National Park. The Arikok National Park was designated in the early 1980s to include most of the rattlesnake's population, providing a safe refuge in which the snake can be protected and monitored. The government has also implemented outreach and education initiatives to change local perception of the snake and highlight its ecological and economic importance – it is now being promoted as a national symbol.

Arikok's partnership with the Toledo zoo has safeguarded the rattlesnake ex-situ and led to a number of research projects collecting critical data on the Cascabel's abundance, life history and habitat requirement to help guide future conservation efforts.



Santanero

The slender Santanero or Aruban Cat-eyed Snake is typically less than 50 cm long. This snake is recognizable by the large scales on the top of its head and by its pattern of dark brown bands alternating with light brown bands. The belly is plain white or cream colored without any markings. This snake is shy and not aggressive. However, it has enlarged teeth at the back of its mouth and mild venom which is not dangerous to humans. However, the venom can paralyze small lizards and frogs. Santaneros are most active at night when they search for food. During the day, they hide under rocks or leaves. They frequently climb trees and cactus. Santaneros eat toads, frogs, insects, and lizards. You may find Santaneros near dams during periods of rainy weather or crossing roads at night. This snake is found island wide. A Santanero in your garden will keep away the unwanted insects. If you encounter a Santanero around your garden, please do not harm this species.

Boa (Boa constrictor)

Boas are Aruba's largest snakes. The longest Boa found on the island was slightly less than 3 m. Newborn Boas average 35 cm. Boas are not venomous. The most distinctive feature of a Boa is its pattern of dark brown and tan blotches which become red toward the tail. The belly in white or cream colored with numerous black spots. Boas are excellent climbers and may be found in trees and cactus. Boas also hide in the leaves under bushes waiting to catch prey that pass. Boas catch their prey with their teeth and then constrict it in their coils. The Boa's diet consists of birds, lizards, rats, mice, and rabbits. Large Boas have been known to eat small goats and chickens. When threatened, Boas will hiss loudly. Boas are a non-native species. The first Boas were reported on the island in 1999. Since that time they have been found across the entire island in all types of habitats. Source: National Park Aruba.❑

Keeping up with the conniving spider… Nanzi fools Cha Tiger

Many years ago, Cha* Tiger did not live in the mondi*, but among civil society. Back then, he was feared by everyone. When he walked past in a halfway, everyone around would make room immediately, that's how ferocious he was.

One night a group of friends was hanging out and they were talking about Cha Tiger. "You know, that tiger sure is incredibly strong and I don't trust him one bit. He probably eats a lot too. Oh, I'm so scared of him!" one person said.

"Oh, don't be stupid! What can Cha Tiger do? He's all bark and no bite, that's it. I certainly am not afraid of him. I bet you guys that I could even sit on his back like I would any donkey." It was Nanzi who said this. The people around him laughed at his remarks, thinking how silly it was for him to say such things.

"You, Nanzi? You are such a liar! He'll stomp you into next Tuesday, stop saying such nonsense."
"I'm not lying!" Nanzi defended himself. "He'll take me all the way to Shon Arei*."

The next morning, Shon Arei already knew of what Nanzi had been saying about Cha Tiger. He was really curious to see if Nanzi was brave enough to put his money where his mouth is. Cha Tiger walked past.
"Hey, Cha Tiger!" someone called to him. He growled at the person. "Hey, Cha Tiger! Listen!"
"Nanzi made fun of you, said he wasn't afraid of you at all! Said he could sit on your back and that you weren't as strong as we think you are."

Cha Tiger stopped dead in his tracks, furious. "Well, I'll set him straight!" Cha Tiger ran toward Nanzi's house, prepared to teach Nanzi a painful lesson. The entire way there he was growling and yelling, making everyone around aware what was going to happen. They all ran inside and peaked through the blinds to see the fight that was going to unfold.

Nanzi also heard Cha Tiger's screams, slowly getting closer and closer. He was terrified. His face turned pale, and his teeth started chattering like someone with a high fever. Sweat was dripping down his forehead.
When Cha Tiger arrived at Nanzi's place, he stormed in and saw Nanzi's frail body lying face down in the corner. "Hey, how are you, Cha Tiger?" Nanzi asked, his voice trembling. "I Heard you were making fun of me in front of your little friends, so I came to hear from your own mouth what you have to say to me," Cha Tiger retorted, still fuming.

"Me? Talk bad about you?" Nanzi chuckled nervously. "People are such liars, I swear. Can't you see how sick I am here?" Nanzi took a pause, like someone who couldn't breathe properly. In his case of course, it was probably from extreme fear. "Shi Maria* wanted to take me to Shon Arei, where someone can heal me from my illness." Still wrapped up in his act, Nanzi turned back face down. "Me, a father of nine little children…"

Cha Tiger was shocked. Nanzi looked absolutely terrible, God knows he was dying.

"Cha Tiger, you're strong. Could you put me on your back and take me to Shon Arei, I can barely walk," Nanzi pleaded. Cha Tiger took pity on the spider and agreed to do this favor. Nanzi climbed on the tiger's back, letting his body fall down and grabbing on to Cha Tiger's neck. "Would you mind putting a rope in your mouth so I can hold on? That way I can sit up straight," Nanzi asked. Cha Tiger growled in reluctance but said OK. And so they made their way to Shon Arei.

Once they started traveling through the mondi, Nanzi turned to Cha Tiger and said: "These mosquitos are so annoying! Cha Tiger, do you mind if I cut a piece of branch so I can keep these mosquitos away?" Cha Tiger let him take his branch.

Eventually they made it out the mondi to where everyone else was. Nanzi immediately perked up and whacked Cha Tiger with his branch, making the tiger jump. He ran all the way to Shon Arei's castle. Exhausted, he plumped down in front of His Majesty.

"See, Shon Arei? Cha Tiger ain't nothing but a big donkey!" Nanzi said proudly. Everyone around cheered: "Hurray, Nanzi!" Poor Cha Tiger was so embarrassed that he was fooled by the conniving spider, and so he ran into the mondi to hide. To this day, it's said that the tiger still hides away in the mondi.

Cha: Nickname placed in front of someone's name and can mean anything, like friend. However, it often has negative connotations first.
Mondi: dry wooded areas found on the ABC islands.
Shon Arei: The King
Shi Maria: Nanzi's wife.❑

Story and pictures taken from: Kon Nanzi a Nek Shon Arei (i otro kuentanan di e araña sabi).

ARUBA TODAY

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Shore eroder
5 City on the Loire
10 Shaq of the NBA
12 Start
13 Alarm
14 "Superman" star
15 Lot sight
16 Coquettish
18 Phone bill addition
19 2015 Paul Rudd movie
21 Campus area
22 Deficit
24 Characteristic
25 Cascade
29 Ring of light
30 "Gave it my best"
32 Nest item
33 Low digit
34 Butter unit
35 Battery end
37 Omit in pronunciation
39 Second airing
40 Network points
41 Grove makeup
42 A lot

DOWN

1 Puccini opera
2 Cuzco builders
3 Shortage
4 Musical ability
5 Thatcher, e.g.
6 Low digit
7 Handy
8 Show
9 Spirited horse
11 "Smiley's People" writer
17 Smallest Great Lake
20 Words to live by
21 Saudi Arabia neighbor
23 Age for a quinceañera
25 "Siegfried" composer
26 Candidate of 2000
27 Lusty drive
28 Sluggish
29 Body pump
31 Garb
33 Addition column
36 Expected
38 Auction unit

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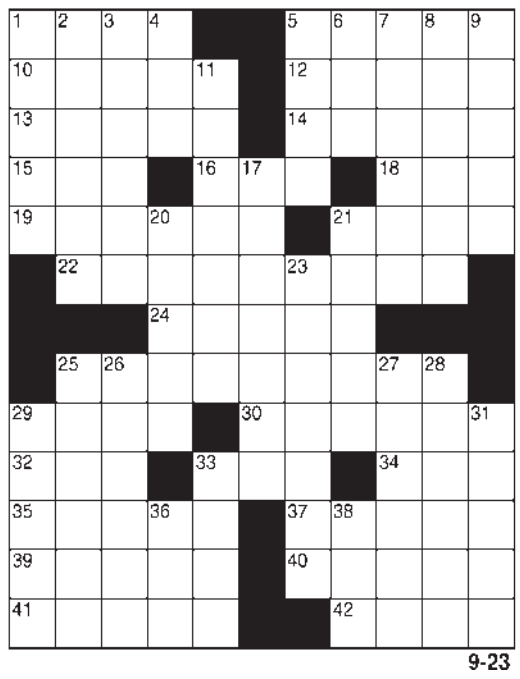

9-23

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

9-23 CRYPTOQUOTE

R Z R H S J R X O W B R X T W U J Q W W

A N V R , O X J J Q M C O H N V A G R

X D A D V M A H R R . — R V Q J S

U H N M A R

Cryptoquote: FAITH IS THE BIRD THAT FEELS THE LIGHT WHEN THE DAWN IS STILL DARK. — RABINDRANATH TAGORE

Cruise ship Schedule: Sep 16 - 30 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
TUE	16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL MAGIC	09.00	22.00	C	1
		ISLAND PRINCESS	09.00	21.00	B	1
		FREEWINDS	10.00	****	E	1
WED	24	OASIS OF THE SEAS	07.00	16.00	I	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
SUN	28	GRAND PRINCESS	09.00	17.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	30	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

	7	4	9			5		
	2	5		3		7	8	9
				6		2		4
4				1				
5	1						6	
			6	9				1
	5				6		9	2
	4	6				3		
	9	2	8					

Difficulty: ★★★ 9/18

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Answer to previous puzzle

1	6	5	2	9	8	7	4	3
3	4	9	7	5	6	8	1	2
2	8	7	4	1	3	6	9	5
7	1	3	8	6	5	4	2	9
4	5	6	9	3	2	1	8	7
9	2	8	1	4	7	3	5	6
6	7	2	5	8	4	9	3	1
8	3	1	6	2	9	5	7	4
5	9	4	3	7	1	2	6	8

Difficulty: ★★★ 9/17

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Music Review: 'Buckingham Nicks' is an engaging blueprint for the classics to come

By HILLEL ITALIE
AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — There are two ways to review "Buckingham Nicks," the long-awaited digital reissue of the 1973, pre-Fleetwood Mac album by Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks, their only recording project as a duo.

Imagine you had never heard of them, that they were an obscure 1970s act who made one album, broke up and left the business. You might think of "Buckingham Nicks" as a kind of period curiosity, a taste of vintage Los Angeles singer-songwriter pop, with its folkish stylings, well-crafted melodies and earnest sensibilities ("Do you always trust your first, initial feeling?/Special knowledge holds true, bears believing," Nicks sings on "Crystal"). The scale is modest and nothing is likely to strike you as a lost classic, but you'll probably take to at least a handful of the 10 songs the strumming riffs on "Crying in the Night" and "Stephanie," the catchy chorus of "Races Are Run," the way Buckingham's sensitive tenor is filled out by Nicks' husky vibrato. You might end up wondering what happened to the two hippie-artists, who look out from the album cover naked, long-haired and unsmiling, as if the photographer had barged in without warning. But if you're in the great universe of Buckingham-Nicks obsessives, encyclopedic on their breakups and reunions and musical sparring matches, you'll find (or rediscover) a trove of clues and portents in Friday's release. ❑

This cover image released by Buckingham Records/Rhino Records shows the digital reissue of "Buckingham Nicks," the 1973 pre-Fleetwood Mac album by Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks.

Associated Press

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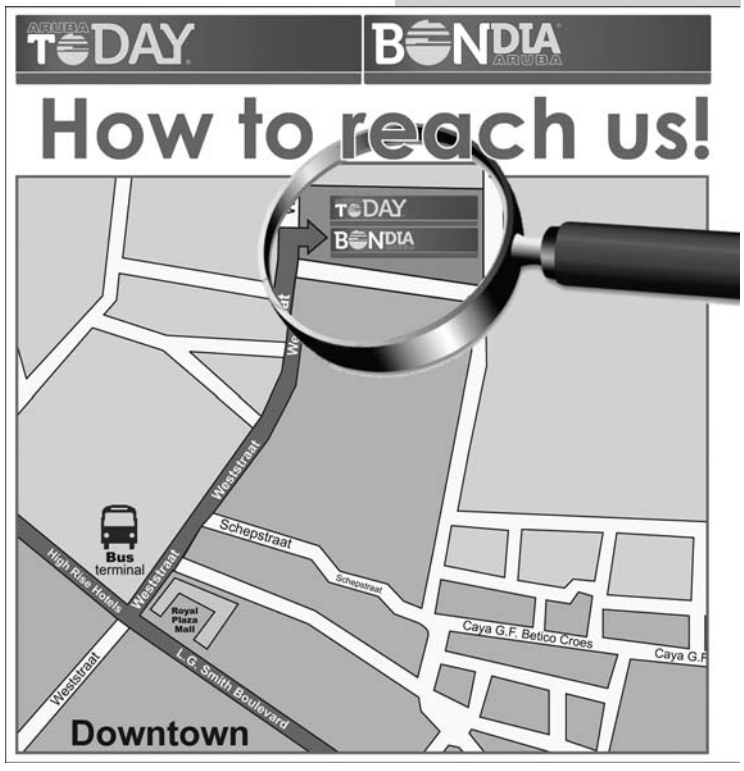

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Editor
Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V. Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Editors
Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks
Angenette Figuereo
Oriana Geerman

Sales
Mark Gomes
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds
classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection
accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website
Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800
E: news@arubatoday.com
W: www.arubatoday.com
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San Nicolas:
Centro Medico: Tel.584 5794

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank
Tel. 588 0002
FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
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Centre for Diabetes
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Jerry quits Ben & Jerry's, saying its independence on social issues has been stifled

By MICHELLE CHAPMAN
AP Business Writer

Ben & Jerry's co-founder Jerry Greenfield is leaving the ice cream brand after 47 years, saying that the independence it once had to speak up on social issues has been stifled by parent company Unilever.

In a letter that co-founder Ben Cohen posted on social media platform X on Greenfield's behalf, Greenfield said that he felt the independence the brand had to speak on social issues and events was lost to Unilever.

"For more than 20 years under their ownership, Ben & Jerry's stood up and spoke out in support of peace, justice and human rights, not as abstract concepts, but in relation to real events happening in our world," he wrote. "That independence existed in no small part because of the unique merger agreement Ben and I negotiated with Unilever, one that enshrined our social mission and values in the company's governance structure in perpetuity. It's profoundly disappointing to come to the conclusion that that independence, the very basis of our sale to Unilever, is gone." Greenfield said that the loss of independence was coming

Ben & Jerry's co-founder Jerry Greenfield speaks on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, July 10, 2014, about a House proposal that would deny Americans the right to know about the genetically engineered ingredients in their food during a news conference.

Associated Press

"at a time when our country's current administration is attacking civil rights, voting rights, the rights of immigrants, women and the LGBTQ community."

"Standing up for the values of justice, equity, and our shared humanity has never been more important, and yet Ben & Jerry's has been silenced, sidelined for fear of upsetting those in power," he said. "It's easy to stand up and speak out when there's nothing at risk. The real test of values is when times are challenging and you have something to lose."Greenfield noted that Ben & Jerry's, famous for its colorful ice cream containers with flavor names such as Cherry Garcia and Phish Food, "was always about more than just ice cream; it was a way to spread love and invite others into the fight for equity, justice and a better world."

Unilever, based in London, is spinning off its ice cream business including Ben & Jerry's into a standalone company called The Magnum Ice Cream Company. Greenfield and Cohen have been pushing for Ben & Jerry's to be allowed to become an independently owned company again, saying in a letter to Magnum's board that they don't believe the brand should be part of a corporation that doesn't support its founding mission.

A spokesperson for Magnum said in a statement on Wednesday that it would be forever grateful to Greenfield for his contributions to Ben & Jerry's and thanked him for his service, but was not aligned with his viewpoint.

"We disagree with his perspective and have sought to engage both co-founders in a constructive conversation on how to strengthen Ben & Jerry's powerful values-based position in the world," the spokesperson said.

Magnum said that it is still committed to Ben & Jerry's mission and remains "focused on carrying forward the legacy of peace, love, and ice cream of this iconic, much-loved brand."

Ben & Jerry's has been at odds with Unilever for a while. In March Ben & Jerry's said that its CEO was unlawfully removed by Unilever in retaliation for the ice cream maker's social and political activism.

In a federal court filing, Ben & Jerry's said that Unilever informed its board on March 3 that it was removing and replacing Ben & Jerry's CEO David Stever. Ben & Jerry's said that violated its merger agreement with Unilever, which states that any decisions regarding a CEO's removal must come after a consultation with an advisory committee from Ben & Jerry's board.❑

Ticket marketplace StubHub enters the public stage as its stock starts trading on Wall Street

By DAMIAN J. TROISE
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — StubHub made its public debut on Wall Street Wednesday.

The ticket marketplace's stock fell 2% from its initial public offering price of $23.50 per share shortly after it began trading. The company's shares are trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "STUB." StubHub offered just over 34 million shares and raised approximately $800 million. At the offering price the company has a market valuation of about $8.6 billion.

StubHub plans to use proceeds from the sale to pay down debt and for general corporate purposes.

The company, which is

StubHub President Nayaab Islam, left, and CEO Eric Baker pose for photos outside the New York Stock Exchange before the company's IPO, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025.

Associated Press

based in New York, said buyers in more than 200 countries and territories used its platform to purchase more than 40 million tickets in 2024. It was co-founded in 2000 by current CEO, Eric Baker. He will remain CEO and maintain control of the company.

EBay bought StubHub in 2007. Baker left the company ahead of that sale and founded international online ticket exchange Viagogo in 2006. EBay sold StubHub to Viagogo in 2020 for $4.05 billion, essentially returning it to Baker, who then changed the name of the combined company to StubHub Holdings. It is among the largest platforms for secondary ticket sales. Its competitors include SeatGeek and Vivid Seats.

StubHub reported just a 3% increase in revenue to $827 million during the first half of 2025 compared with the same period in 2024. That puts the company on pace for slower revenue growth after notching a 29% jump for all of 2024.

Live Nation, which dominates the primary market for ticket sales through Ticketmaster, reported a 1.8% jump in revenue to just under $23.2 billion in 2024.❑

Tom Brady's dual roles as Fox Sports NFL analyst, Raiders limited owner continue to raise questions

By JOE REEDY
AP Sports Writer

The questions about Tom Brady's dual roles as a Fox Sports NFL analyst and partial owner of the Las Vegas Raiders have intensified after he was shown in the team's coaching booth with a headset on during a 20-9 loss Monday night to the Los Angeles Chargers.

Fox Sports CEO Eric Shanks on Tuesday sidestepped any such questions about the perception of a possible conflict of interest.

"I'm not going to answer that one. Good question, but not gonna answer that," Shanks said when asked during Front Office Sports' Tuned In event if he could sympathize with Chicago Bears fans who might see a conflict. Brady will be in Chicago on Sunday when the Bears host the Dallas Cowboys. The following week, Chicago is at the Raiders.

"I think if there's a conversation that needs to be had after last night, we'll have it," Shanks added.

NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said in an email to The Associated Press that Brady was sitting in the booth Monday night in his capacity as a Raiders limited partner.

"There are no policies that prohibit an owner from sitting in the coaches' booth or wearing a headset during a game," McCarthy said. "All personnel sitting in the booth must abide by policies that prohibit the use of electronic devices other than league-issued equipment such as a Microsoft Surface Tablet for the Sideline Viewing System."

Raiders coach Pete Carroll said he knew Brady would be in the booth and pointed out that Brady also was in the booth when the Raiders played the San Francisco 49ers in a preseason game on Aug. 16 in Las Vegas.

Carroll said he understands the attention and concerns Monday night's appearance has generated.

"I think Tom's really tried to honor that strictly with the concerns you're talking about," Carroll said. "He is not planning games with us. He is not talking to us about anything other than our conversations that are really random. They're not structured. They're not set up in any way. He knows. He's very respectful of what he does otherwise. He's of the opinion he doesn't want to be that kind of factor and he's not."

Washington Commanders owner Josh Harris, right, talks with former NFL quarterback Tom Brady, right, before the start of an NFL football game against the New York Giants, Sunday, Sept. 7, 2025, in Landover, Md.

Associated Press

Brady signed a 10-year, $375 million contract with Fox in May 2022 while still playing for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He retired after that season and decided in February 2023 to take a year off before moving into the booth last season. He was at the Raiders game on Monday night after calling the Super Bowl rematch between the Philadelphia Eagles and Kansas City Chiefs on Sunday.

Whether Brady is at the Raiders' other two primetime, non-Sunday games remains to be seen. Las Vegas is at Denver on Thursday, Nov. 6, and then host Dallas on Monday, Nov. 17.

The NFL has previously placed restrictions on Brady in his role as a broadcaster, though the league eased some of those this season. Brady is now allowed to participate in production meetings with teams ahead of a game, as long as they are conducted virtually or via Zoom. He still isn't allowed to watch another team's practices or set foot in a team's training complex.

The Brady rules were put in place because the seven-time Super Bowl-winning quarterback has a 5% ownership stake in the Raiders.

Last season, Brady couldn't do production meetings until the Super Bowl in New Orleans, when he was allowed to attend meetings with Kansas City Chiefs and Philadelphia Eagles players and coaches. He wasn't able to view practices.

Hans Schroeder, the NFL's executive vice president of media distribution, said to the AP on Aug. 27 that this year's adjustments felt like a natural step forward.

Brady still isn't allowed to be in another team's facility or hotel. He can conduct an interview offsite with a player, which he did a couple times last season.

Many of the network broadcast crews have done their production meetings with teams virtually, even though some still prefer getting into a city on Fridays to watch the home team and then talk to the visiting team at their hotel the next day.

Brady did not answer a question posed by AP on Monday night about the easing of the broadcast restrictions. Instead, he discussed taking part in a flag football tournament in March in Saudi Arabia.

Fox Sports analyst Greg Olsen, who also was a speaker at the Front Office Sports event in New York, said it's up to the teams to decide how to handle production meetings, whether it is with Brady or another broadcast crew.

"There are some teams that are very guarded with their information, and it doesn't matter if you're an owner of another team or not: They give you very little on the calls. It's the minority," Olsen said. "The vast majority of the coaches, especially the ones that you develop a good relationship with, are amazing on these calls. They really give you great insight that does make a difference. Every team can decide how they want to handle those, and whatever factors they place value on, that impacts how they handle them, that's their every right to be as forthcoming or not so with the production crews that they want." Fox's top crew of Brady, Kevin Burkhardt, Erin Andrews and Tom Rinaldi opened the season with the matchup between the Washington Commanders and New York Giants. Both teams face the Raiders later this season, but Commanders coach Dan Quinn didn't seem fazed by Brady's dual roles.

"It's unique for sure, but they have a job to do, too, so I get that like that's our responsibility to help them give some insights, what it could be, what could be there for the game. So, it's really just for this game, like that's what I think about," Quinn said. "But not just because of Tom calling it and his relationship obviously with the Raiders, but really in every game because it's just what do you have to do to win this game? You know, the information here wouldn't be applied to another team in that way."

Olsen, who was Fox's top NFL analyst before being supplanted by Brady, said if he had the money to buy a stake in a team, he would do it.

"I'm not a hater. I say more power to him," Olsen said. "And if I'm the Raiders and I have a minority owner like Tom Brady who I have access to and he has the experience and I can pick his brain, you would be silly not to. Why would you not utilize every resource and every aspect of your organization to try to find that slight margin to be the difference between winning and losing the game? So, from the Raiders' perspective, I don't blame them for using Tom."❑

Portugal's Isaac Nader is the out-of-nowhere winner of men's 1,500 meters at world championships

By EDDIE PELLS
AP National Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Even avid track fans might have checked their programs when that blur of red and green on the far outside started streaking to the lead with the finish line in sight.

This year's out-of-nowhere winner of the men's 1,500 meters hails from Portugal. It's Isaac Nader, who ran five wide down the stretch Wednesday night to pull what can only be described as a stunner at world championships, even against a field that lost three of its top contenders long before the finish line.

Nader rallied from fifth to first over the last 100 meters to edge 2022 champion Jake Wightman of Britain, who also wasn't expected to contend, by .02 seconds. The winning time: a leisurely 3 minutes, 34.10 seconds.

Portugal's Isaac Nader celebrates after winning the gold medal ahead of Britain's Jake Wightman in the men's 1,500 meters final at the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025.

Associated Press

"There were 14 men in the final, and I thought it was possible to win," Nader said.

"I told myself before the race that I was either going to finish 14, or I was going to finish first."

Kenya's Reynold Cheruiyot finished third while the favorite, Niels Laros of The Netherlands, faded at the end and wound up fifth. Another top contender, 2023 world champ Josh Kerr, pulled up lame in the third lap and finished the race nearly 30 seconds off the pace.

The 26-year-old Nader came in ranked eighth in the world and had never placed in a major championship. He was a 50-1 longshot.

"It's the same story every year in the 15," Wightman said.

"Whoever goes in the favorite always seems to have a bit too much of a target. I don't think one person would have expected Nader to win that."

Not since 2021, in this stadium, when Jakob Ingebrigtsen took Olympic gold, has this race gone to "form" whatever that is on the sport's biggest stage.

In 2022, it was Wightman passing world-leading Ingebrigtsen and beating him to the line.

In 2023, Kerr did the same thing.

Last year, a battle of personalities and running styles between Kerr and Ingebrigtsen got upended when America's Cole Hocker barged past them on the inside for the win.

Laros, the 20-year-old with the world's fastest time this year, was considered the odds-on favorite even before Hocker got disqualified for jostling in the semifinals and Ingebrigtsen, who came to Tokyo off an Achilles injury, didn't make it out of the opening heats.❑